Indian Air Force, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether any talks were held in this regard during the recent visit of Mr. Douglas Hurd, Foreign Secretary of U.K.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Acquisition of Advanced Jet Trainer for Indian Air Force has been accepted by the Government and on the basis of detailed technical evaluation of proposals from shortlisted vendors, a Committee has been constituted to negotiate the purchase proposals.

(b) This subject was raised by the Foreign Secretary of U.K. Mr. Douglas Hurd during his recent visit to India. He was informed that the matter is under consideration.

Attempted rape by army jawans

53. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to news item captioned "Jawans' bid to rape two school girls" appearing in Indian Express dated 17th August, 1993; and

(b) if so, what action Government have initiated on the army jawans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir. 2 NCO's had been identified.

(b) Disciplinary proceeding have been initiated against them.

Opening of new Defence Production Units

54. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to open some new defence production units during the Eighth Five Year Plan period in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of such units approved for Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) There is no proposal at present to set up new defence production unit anywhere in India including Tamil Nadu.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Utilisation of vacant land in cantonments

55. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to dispose of or otherwise gainfully utilise the vacant land in cantonments and those in possession of the various departments under his Ministry;

(b) if so, how much of such lands has been identified; and

(c) what are the precise plans for utilizing or disposing of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c) There has been a continuing policy that lands rendered permanently surplus to Defence requirements will be disposed of by sale on realisation of market value to various agencies in the following order of preference:

(i) Other Ministries of Central Government.

(ii) State Governments.

(iii) Local bodies.

(iv) Educational and Charitable Institutions.

(v) Ex-Serviceman (individual plots only for residential purpose.

In case none of the above agencies responds to the offer, the surplus Defence